Serial No. 10/037,238 Amendment and Response to Office Action Mailed: 14 October 2005

Remarks

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 16 as being unpatentable over Sudia (U.S. Patent No. 6,209,091) and objected to claims 2 – 10, 12, 14, 17 – 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner further stated that the objected claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of their respective base claims, and any intervening claims. Further, the Examiner stated claims 11, 13 and 15 are allowable.

By this paper, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 16 and amended claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 to include the limitations of their base claim. Claims: 2 - 15, and 17 - 19 are now believed to be in a condition for allowance. The amendments to the Claims do not add any new matter. In view of the forgoing amendments and the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of all pending claims.

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Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner wishes to resolve any other issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9 January 2006

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